

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

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A1
- 1 1. A method of updating a message from a first version to an  
2 upgraded version by chaining through intermediate versions  
3 comprising:  
4 receiving an update message having a first version format;  
5 and,  
6 repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next  
7 most recent version format based on the update message until a  
8 final update message having an upgraded version format is  
9 generated.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein generating a revised update  
2 message having a next most recent version format includes:  
3 receiving a first update message; and,  
4 calling a next most recent version mapping function to map  
5 contents of the first update message to generate a second update  
6 message.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the update message includes a  
2 set of records for a database in the first version.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the set of records for the  
2 database in the first version is a complete set of records for the  
3 database.
- 1 5. An article comprising a computer readable medium having  
2 instructions stored thereon, which when executed, causes:

3 receipt of an update message having a first version format;  
4 and,

5 repeated generation of a revised update message having a next  
6 most recent version format based on the update message until a  
7 final update message having an upgraded version format is  
8 generated.

1 6. The article of claim 5, wherein the computer readable medium  
2 further having instructions stored thereon, which when executed,  
3 causes:

4 receipt of a first update message; and,  
5 calling of a next most recent version mapping function to map  
6 contents of the first update message to generate a second update  
7 message.

1 7. The article of claim 5, wherein the update message includes a  
2 set of records for a database in the first version.

3 8. The article of claim 7, wherein the set of records for the  
4 database in the first version is a complete set of records for the  
5 database.

1 9. An apparatus for updating a message from a first version to  
2 an upgraded version by chaining through intermediate versions  
3 comprising:

4 means for receiving an update message having a first version  
5 format; and,

6 means for repeatedly generating a revised update message  
7 having a next most recent version format based on the update

8 message until a final update message having an upgraded version  
9 format is generated.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:  
2 means for receiving a first update message; and,  
3 means for calling a next most recent version mapping function  
4 to map contents of the first update message to generate a second  
5 update message.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the update message includes  
2 a set of records for a database in the first version.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the set of records for the  
database in the first version is a complete set of records for the  
database.